

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of the Regular Board of Police Commissioners Meeting Thursday, April 28, 2005

The regular meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners was held on Thursday, April 28, at 3:00 p.m., at Police Headquarters, 1300 Beaubien, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present

Arthur Blackwell, II **(ABS)**
Erminia Ramirez
Jim Holley
Megan Norris
Willie Hampton **(ABS)**

Department Personnel Present

Chief Ella M. Bully-Cummings
AC Walter Martin
DC Chester Logan
Insp. Gail Wilson-Turner
Insp. Adams
Insp. Hope Facenberry
Lt. Taryn Foreman
Lt. Terry Herbert
Lt. Jeffrey Romeo
Lt. Fred Saffold
Lt. John Serda
Lt. Donna Jarvis
Sgt. Lynn Brown
Sgt. Deborah McCraery
PO Leslie Washington
PO Michael Woody

Board Staff Present

Dante' L. Goss, Executive Director
E. Lynise Bryant-Weekes, Personnel Director
Denise R. Hooks, Attorney/Supervising Inv.
Arnold Sheard, Interim Chief Investigator

OTHERS PRESENT

Ron Scott
Ms. Walters
Odell Johnson
Tawana Morris
Helen Moore

Edith Lee Payne
Jerome Warfield
Media

RECORDERS

Jerome Adams
Kellie Williams

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairperson Ramirez called the regular meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners to order at 3:20 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Thursday, April 21, 2005**

MOTION: **Comm. Holley** made the motion to approve the above Minutes.

SECOND: **Comm. Norris** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

3. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

RESOLUTION HONORING DIRECTOR E. LYNISE BRYANT-WEEKES

WHEREAS Director E. Lynise Bryant-Weekes bids farewell to the Detroit Police Department on April 29, 2005; and

WHEREAS On July 15, 2002, E. Lynise Bryant-Weekes was appointed Director of the Police Personnel Bureau by the Board of Police Commissioners. Prior to this appointment, Director Bryant-Weekes was an Attorney with the City of Detroit Law Department in its Labor and Employment Section; and

WHEREAS Director Bryant-Weekes' responsibilities included overseeing the Police Personnel Bureau, recruiting applicants for

service as police officers, preparing and administering promotional examinations, responding to appeals by rejected applicants, and facilitating human resources' functions for sworn and non-sworn staff of the Detroit Police Department; and

WHEREAS Director Bryant-Weekes was responsible for the first update of the Standard Operating Procedures (S.O.P) for Civilian Employees in nearly twenty-five (25) years. She also initiated some critical revisions of the Recruiting Unit's SOP; and

WHEREAS Director Bryant-Weekes served as the Executive Liaison for the "Service Improvement Process" (SIP), which provided a city-wide evaluation of civilian employees. In that capacity, she advocated for the proper training of all supervisors, as well as the Departmental Process Coordinators; and

WHEREAS To ensure consistent and accurate application of the law, Director Bryant-Weekes' conducted training on the Family Medical Leave Act (F.M.L.A.); she also provided oversight in other matters, such as EEO, to make certain the policies and practices of the Police Department were in compliance with local, state and federal laws; and

WHEREAS Director Bryant-Weekes had an integral role in creating two highly successful recruiting drives, those being the "Hiring in the Spirit of Service" Campaign and the "Give Back, Get More Campaign," which were funded by grants she was instrumental in procuring; and

WHEREAS Director Bryant-Weekes received her Bachelor's of Arts in Political Science at Eastern Michigan University, and her Juris Doctor at Wayne State University.

WHEREAS In her own unique way, Director Bryant-Weekes has impacted the culture of the Department through her untiring efforts to provide balance and equality in the treatment of sworn and non-sworn members. Through this approach, Director Bryant-Weekes gained the respect of her peers and bridged a rapport with Union Officials; and

WHEREAS Director Bryant-Weekes has served the Department with honesty, forthrightness, and integrity. She has been a stellar model and guide to the men and women of the Detroit Police Department.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED

That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the citizens of the city of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department, acknowledges Director E. Lynise Bryant-Weekes for her outstanding commitment, loyalty and dedication. Director Bryant-Weekes' professionalism, and leadership support the highest standards and traditions for the Detroit Police Department and the community.

We congratulate and thank you, Director E. Lynise Bryant-Weekes. You will, indeed, be missed.

/s/Arthur Blackwell
Chairperson

/s/Erminia Ramirez
Vice Chairperson

/s/ Megan P. Norris
Commissioner

/s/Jim Holley
Commissioner

/s/Willie Hampton
Commissioner

MOTION: **Comm. Norris** made the motion to adopt the Resolution.

SECOND: **Comm. Holley** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

Vice-Chairperson Ramirez asked Dir. Bryant-Weekes if she would like to say something?

Dir. Bryant-Weekes thanked the Commissioners for giving me the opportunity to serve. Yes, tomorrow was supposed to be my last day with the Department, but I think I will be here for just a little while longer. But, when asked I graciously agreed. However, I am looking forward to again practicing law and to establishing myself back into the legal field.

Comm. Norris stated for Comm. Ramirez and Comm. Holley's benefit because they weren't here when they hired Director Weekes. I know that Ms. Hooks has provided us with a protocol for hiring executives in the future. So, I just want to let you know the process that we went through with Ms. Weekes, because it is a great process and it worked.

The Personnel Committee was given authority by the Board to post the position and to solicit applications. The Personnel Committee delegated to the staff the actual posting of the position and that sort of thing. Although the Personnel Committee did review the posting and approve it and make changes and those sorts of things before it went out, the staff screened applications for those that looked like the read qualifications. (Should this read real or needed?) The Personnel Committee interviewed along with the Executive Director and Ms. Hooks. We interviewed ten people and we narrowed it down to two (2). And, those two people were interviewed by the full Board and the Chief in (an) open meeting. And, then after interviewing the finalists with the full Board and the Chief, the Board voted and made a decision. I think that it is really important that the Board be involved in that process and that there be a process because it gave us to chance to meet lots of folks from lots of different kinds of places and come up with clearly a super candidate.

Vice-Chairperson Ramirez asked where are we right now with that process?

Exec. Dir. Goss stated we are still accepting applications and the Personnel Subcommittee should be making recommendations.

Comm. Norris stated the Personnel Committee did not make recommendations about the candidates; we brought forward the ones that we thought were the best. But, we didn't rank them or anything like that; we really let the full Board make that decision.

RESOLUTIONS HONORING

RESOLUTION HONORING POLICE OFFICER ROLAND WOODS

WHEREAS Police Officer Roland Woods retired on March 18, 2005, from the Detroit Police Department after over twenty-seven (27) years of exemplary and dedicated service to the citizens of Detroit; and

WHEREAS Roland Woods was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on May 19, 1977. Upon graduating from the Detroit Police Academy, Officer Woods was assigned to the Twelfth Precinct. He also had assignments at the Tenth Precinct Mini Station Section, the Tenth Precinct and the Police Community Services Unit, where he remained until his retirement; and

WHEREAS During his career with the Department, Officer Woods was the recipient of the 1980 Government of the People (GOP) Commemorative Award, one (1) Perfect Attendance Award, one (1) Chief's Merit Award, two (2) Departmental Citations. He also received numerous letters of praise and appreciation from supervisors and citizens,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED That the Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the citizens of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department, acknowledge Officer Woods for his outstanding service and commitment to the citizens of the City of Detroit. Officer Woods acted in accordance with the highest standards and traditions of the Detroit Police Department. His loyal and devoted service merits our highest regards.

We salute and thank you, Police Officer Roland Woods.

/s/Arthur Blackwell
Chairperson

/s/Erminia Ramirez
Vice Chairperson

/s/ Megan P. Norris
Commissioner

/s/Jim Holley
Commissioner

/s/Willie Hampton
Commissioner

MOTION: **Comm. Norris** made the motion to adopt the Resolution.

SECOND: **Comm. Holley** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

4. SECRETARY'S REPORT – ATTY. DENISE HOOKS

GENERAL ORDER

On April 25, 2005, the Board of Police Commissioners' Office received **Directive 304.2: Use of Force**. This Directive is scheduled to be presented and discussed at the Board of Police Commissioners' community meeting on May 12, 2005.

CITIZEN COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
2005 - Weekly Count of Complaints:	28	421
2004 - Weekly Count of Complaints:	38	478

- The Office of the Chief Investigator (OCI) closed a total of 17 cases this week.
- The Office of the Chief Investigator submitted 9 cases to the Chief's Office.
- The Chief's Office has reviewed and returned 0 cases to OCI.

5. REPORT/PRESENTATION – CHIEF OF POLICE

DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT

REPORT TO THE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS



BUILDING A SAFER DETROIT THROUGH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS.

The Detroit Police Department is committed to uphold its mission to provide a safe environment for our residents and businesses. This effort is not possible without the joint commitment of the community and the Police Department. We appreciate and value the role our citizens have played in helping us to take guns and drugs off the streets of the city of Detroit.

SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

During the period of April 19th – April 25th, the *Narcotics Enforcement and Conspiracy Units* conducted 28 search warrants and 31 street enforcement actions within the boundaries of the city of Detroit, resulting in the following arrests and confiscations:

Arrests:

- ◆ 29 Felony arrests
- ◆ 111 Misdemeanor arrests
- ◆ 2 Juvenile detained

Confiscated:

- ◆ 110.6 Grams of cocaine, 18.2 grams of heroin, 37,933.8 grams of marijuana - street value **\$228,735.00**
- ◆ **\$13,062.00 U.S.** currency
- ◆ 14 Handguns
- ◆ 2 Vehicles

The Vice Section

During the week of April 19th – April 25th, officers of the Vice Section conducted Operation Pressure Point within the boundaries of the 3rd, 7th, 9th and 11th Precincts. The following are a result of their endeavors:

- ◆ 6 Businesses cited for Michigan Liquor Control Commission violations
- ◆ 6 Citations issued for selling alcoholic beverage to a minor
- ◆ 2 Citations issued for no business license on premises
- ◆ 3 Miscellaneous Ordinance Violations

The Investigative Operations Division

On April 17th, officers from the seventh precinct responded to “A man Shot in the Stomach” run. Subsequent to an investigation an as a result of the combined effort of the community and the police department two (2) men were arrested for “Carjacking”, “Felony Firearm” and “Felony Assault.”

Police/Community Intervention



TAKING THE GUNS OFF THE STREET !



**Total Guns Confiscated
Year-To-Date
1,231**

FIFTH PRECINCT

On April 25th, officers of the 5th Precinct conducted an investigation to locate a man wanted for "Home Invasion I" and "Felonious Assault." As a result of the officer's investigation, along with information provided by a witness, the man was located and arrested without incident.

SEVENTH PRECINCT

On April 24th, officers of the 7th Precinct responded to the 2600 block of Riopelle on an "Armed Robbery of a Citizen" run. Subsequent to an investigation, one (1) man was arrested without incident for "Armed Robbery." Further investigation revealed the man was responsible for numerous other robberies in and around the 7th Precinct.

ELEVENTH PRECINCT

On April 19th, officers of the 11th Precinct received information that a man wanted in connection with a non-fatal shooting was staying in the 3500 block of Algonquin. As a result of an investigation, the wanted man was arrested without incident for "Assault With Intent to Commit Murder" and "Felonious Assault."

EIGHTH PRECINCT

On April 21st, officers of the 8th Precinct while on patrol in the 18000 Block of Dale, observed a group of men loitering in front of a known narcotic location. As a result of an investigation two (2) men were arrested for "Violation of Controlled Substance Act." Confiscated was 518 grams of suspected marijuana.

TENTH PRECINCT

On April 24th, officers of the 10th Precinct while on patrol in the area of Hogarth and Dexter observed a vehicle blockading a moving lane of traffic. As a result of an investigation, one (1) man was arrested for "Violation of Controlled Substance Act." Confiscated were forty two (42) individually wrapped packets of suspected heroin.

TWELFTH PRECINCT

On April 20th, officers of the 12th Precinct responded to the area of Birwood and W. McNichols on "Carjacking Just Happened" run. Subsequent to an investigation, one (1) man was arrested for "Armed Robbery", "Felonious Assault" and "Felony Firearm."

THIRTEENTH PRECINCT

On April 22nd, officers of the 13th Precinct responded to the 3300 block of Merrick on a "Family Trouble/Felonious Assault" run. Subsequent to an investigation one (1) man was arrested for "Felonious Assault / Domestic Violence" and "Felony Firearm." Confiscated was one (1) shotgun.

Chief of Police Ella M. Bully-Cummings

6. PRESENTATION – LABOR RELATIONS UNIT

Lt. Saffold gave the following PowerPoint presentation:

(See Attachment)

Questions and Answers

Comm. Norris asked are you involved in determining what the department is going to be asking for at the table?

Lt. Saffold stated we review existing policies and procedures, rules and regulations and we make recommendations to the Chief, but ultimately that responsibility lies with the Chief of Police.

Comm. Norris stated the reason that I am asking is because this Board has historically felt a little left out of that process. The Board is clear that it has a responsibility in conjunction with the Chief for making policy in the Department as a practical matter; a great of the policies in this Department gets made in the contract language. So, for example, the Charter, the Collective Bargaining Agreement, everything says that the Board gets to approve promotions, but once it's negotiated how we are going to decide promotions, there is not much left for us to decide, but we are not consulted in negotiating how we are going to decide who gets promotions. Similarly, with disciplinary issues we are not consulted in negotiating disciplinary matrixes. Those are policies in this Department and I don't mean intentionally, but affectively it is an end run around the policy-making role of this Board. There have occasionally been times when someone has come to us and has asked our thoughts about something. I've been here now very close to five (5) years and I can think of two (2). So, that is not too many times. I'm not sure where the responsibility for that lies, but at some stage in going into bargaining, the Board has to have an opportunity to weigh in, not to be at the table, not to do all that, but to weigh in when we think the policy ought to be this or we think the policy ought to be that so that they aren't saddled with policies that we had no role in creating at all. As everyone knows, we voted against a particular promotion and we lost that because it had been part of the contract affectively that promotions be done a certain way. We had no say in that. When we complained about that there was an Act 312 and as I understand promotional criteria, we had no say in those either. It just happens that the Chief negotiated a better deal, which is great, but we didn't get to weigh in on what we thought the deal ought to be. I think that's a shame. I think that's a shame. I think that it's clear that this Board is

supposed to have a role in policies that are being made in the contract. We should have an opportunity to have some input.

Comm. Holley stated it should be negotiated that senior people should be with rookie people. There ought to be mixed teams out there. I am also concerned about residency and the shift of seniority. How can we participate in a process that we don't have a role in and yet we are held responsible to the community for the same thing that we don't have any role in? Am I making sense?

Insp. Wilson-Turner stated I understand.

Vice-Chairperson Ramirez stated reporting back to the community and saying that it is a seniority issue is not holding anymore with the community.

Comm. Holley asked what role can we play to help you?

Insp. Wilson-Turner stated I understand what you are saying. Presently we are in negotiation with ACT 312. Promotions are not on the table right now. I am willing to sit down with any of you and take your ideas back to the table, if you would like for me to do that.

Comm. Norris stated I think that would be great. If you could even just give us a bullet list with no details, of the topics that are on the table, 95% of them we are not going to care about. For example, last time there was a big issue about dry cleaning uniforms. We're not weighing in on those, but there may be one or two where we just want an opportunity to have twenty (20) minutes of your time to say, "Here's something that matter to us and see if you can get this."

Insp. Wilson-Turner stated I will be glad to do that for you.

Comm. Holley asked is there three (3) unions?

Lt. Saffold stated correct.

Comm. Holley asked why? You have one police department, but you have three unions.

Comm. Norris stated that is legally required.

Lt. Saffold stated the DPOA represents police officers. The LSA or DPLSA represents investigators, sergeants and lieutenants. The DPCOA represents inspectors and commanders.

Comm. Norris stated you can't have commanders in the same union with the officers that they command. So, that's why there are different bargaining rights.

Comm. Holley asked could the unions have different fringe benefits?

Comm. Norris stated yes. For example, we had an issue several years ago about promotions of command officers because the promotion of officers to sergeant and sergeants to lieutenants is a very different issue than who the Chief decides she might want as a commander. So, we had some issues about whether a Chief had the authority to do some things in the promotional process that they would want to do. They have a very different agreement than what the officers....

Comm. Holley asked is this in other cities as well?

Comm. Norris stated yes. I think we have about seven (7) to eight (8) people that are not in the union.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated it is probably about ten (10).

Comm. Norris stated so basically our whole department is unionized. In many cities only your officers or your sergeants, but not your high level command staff.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Comm. Holley asked why does it seem that there are a lot of State Police incidents occurring? Is something going on? Are people infringing upon our community without permission or correlation? Is that something that they could do without getting someone's permission?

Chief Bully-Cummings stated I am also concerned. Yesterday morning, I made a phone call and spoke with Colonel Studervann, who is the Director of the Michigan State Police particularly after the incident on the day before yesterday, but I also spoke with the Colonel regarding the fatal shooting that occurred the other week and I spoke with him the day after the shooting at 3:00 a.m. There is a meeting scheduled between AC Martin and Captain Clark, who is in charge of the post here. I do have many concerns, I have concerns as it relates to members of this Department and how they are being treated and they will be treated going forward by State Troopers. There is a true meaning for their harmonious and collaborative partnership and I just want to make sure that it could continue in that direction, but I have expressed my concerns and I am hopeful that we could work something out.

Comm. Norris stated we received a report from our staff this week, that I think came from information that the Department provided to us about officers that are suspended with or without pay. So, that we could get a feeling of how many folks are off on suspension and what their status is, and those sorts of things. We had raised the possibility sometime ago of having some sort of sunset provision on suspensions without pay or some sort of possibility that after a certain amount of time that the union could either come back and ask us to reconsider or the Department would be required to come back and ask us to reconsider, something like that. I believe the way that we left it was that the Department's attorney, Nancy Ninowski and the Union's attorney, Mr. Goldpaugh were going to sit down to see if they could come up with something. And, I haven't heard anything back and I would like to when we get an opportunity just because looking at that list, it's clear that some of these have been hanging out there for some length of time and there may be very good reasons for that, but I know that has been a concern as we consider the suspensions.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated I have the same concern too, so I have asked Insp. Wilson-Turner to prepare a matrix on members that are suspended without pay and members suspended with pay and the status of the matter.

Comm. Norris stated I don't think that we are so worried about the ones with pay because they are collecting a paycheck.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated there are four (4) members that are currently suspended without pay.

Insp. Wilson-Turner stated Nancy Ninowski and John Goldpaugh, they are working on it as we speak. We spoke about it this morning. And, you will get an update.

Comm. Norris stated that's terrific. If you could just let them no that we are asking.

Atty. Hooks stated I had spoken with Nancy Ninowski and John Goldpaugh with respect to some procedures and for one reason or another, our meetings kept getting cancelled because one had a prior engagement or so forth. But, we have not put that to rest yet and we are planning to sit down and discuss that.

Commissioner Ramirez extended an invitation to everyone to come and celebrate Cinco de Mayo on the Southwest. There will a parade from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Vernor near the Third Precinct.

8. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, May 5, 2005 @ 3:00 p.m.
Police Headquarters
1300 Beaubien, Rm. 328-A
Detroit, MI 48226

9. ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

Ron Scott stated we need to look at the homerule division in this county and state and see what that relates to in relationship to what's happening. I am concerned about the police department and self-governance of the city and how it relates to other municipalities and pother entities. Also, we need to make a greater effort to deal with issues related to the homeless and the mentally ill in the downtown area.

PO Reggie Crawford submitted an official complaint to Chief Bully-Cummings against AC Walter Martin in regards to his nephew, who was arrested for a domestic violence charge and was released without due process. I understand that the Commission has no power to investigate a criminal complaint.

Comm. Norris stated it goes to Internal Affairs. She asked Supv. Inv. Cromwell, I am right that if Internal Affairs were to determine that there had been no criminal activity that it would come back to our office to look at it from a policy and procedure standpoint?

Supv. Inv. Cromwell stated all criminal complaints are investigated by ICU, if they determine that the findings were not criminal, it could end there, but if they have some administrative issues sometimes they will enter those into the record. So, there's been some communication between our office and ICD on this matter. If they do refer it back to us, we will investigate the matter.

Comm. Norris stated I have a memory of some other situations that proceeded like this. But, then once Internal Affairs determined that we don't think this falls in our bailiwick because we have determined that there is no criminal violation, we still fully investigated the regular issues.

Sup. Inv. Cromwell stated that is correct.

Odell Johnson asked the following:

1. If a policeman go through a neighborhood soliciting or obtaining signatures from citizens against another citizen, is that policeman violating the law, or is he in violation of the law?

2. If high-ranking police officers and city of Detroit personnel know of this event, what are they supposed to do with and about that knowledge?
3. If a police officer tells a citizen to commit a crime, exhibit aggression, or aggressive behavior towards another citizen, does that police violate the law?

Comm. Holley asked was the officer in uniform or out of uniform?

Mr. Johnson stated in uniform. It was a meeting between myself, OCI, and the commander and a sergeant.

Vice-Chairperson Ramirez asked which OCI?

Comm. Norris asked was it the Office of the Chief Investigator?

Mr. Johnson stated it was Arnold Sheard. A statement was made that mortified me. First thing that OCI say was were did this come from, but the officer had about forty signatures that he got from door to door or within the neighborhood about me.

Comm. Norris stated we can tell you that if a police officer tells a citizen to commit a crime, that one we know the answer to.

Mr. Johnson asked what would be your answer?

Comm. Norris stated a police officer is not to tell a citizen to commit a crime, that's an easy one. But, we don't understand the context in which you are talking about some of these other things. I understand that you have made a complaint that is being investigated.

Supv. Inv. Cromwell stated we need more details. Mr. Johnson has about five (5) or six (6) complaints in our office. He has met with I.C.I. Sheard.

Comm. Norris stated it sounds like he is complaining about that meeting, but I am not clear about that.

Supv. Inv. Cromwell stated I was present, but I will speak with Mr. Johnson.

Helen Moore stated she filed a complaint on November 10, 2004, regarding embezzlement of over \$100,000 from her church. She asked how long does it take for an investigation and some justice? She also asked for a full investigation of this case. She submitted a package regarding this matter to Chief Bully-Cummings.

Lt. Richardson stated he is from the Arson Section of the Detroit Fire Department. I was told that I would receive a letter about the matter being resolved, but I have never received it. He asked for a copy/statement that indicated why he was denied entrance into the police academy, a copy of complete file that was generated by the Recruiting Unit.

Atty. Hooks stated in response to your first inquiry, you are indicating that you were supposed to receive a letter. That is somewhat vague to me. I know that you filed an appeal with the Board and a letter did go out to you in mid March.

Lt. Richardson stated he did not receive a letter.

Atty. Hooks stated I can give you another copy of the letter after the meeting because a letter was sent to the address that we have for you. And, it indicated that your matter was being reviewed by the Personnel Section.

Lt. Richardson stated subsequent to that, I talked to Ms. Weekes on the 17th of March and the matter was resolved and I was told at that point that I was going to receive a letter stating that.

Atty. Hooks stated then I would just suggest that we get with the Director after this meeting. I was just addressing what was occurring with respect to the Board. And, the other two (2) matters sounds like that should be taken up with the Personnel Department. So, after the meeting...

Lt. Richardson stated this is the only reason why I am coming to this extreme because I have tried to contact these people.

Comm. Norris stated she is sitting right here, so we'll make sure that she talks to you. We will make sure that gets addressed.

Dir. Bryant-Weekes stated Insp. Plummer met with the lieutenant. We have begun processing the lieutenant to enter the Academy. However, as the Board is clearly aware, there are no more classes in the Academy. Insp. Plummer is currently out of town on Department business. I am not aware of whether or not an official letter was sent. However, as I indicated to Ms. Hooks, we were resolving Lt. Richardson matter and until we had to eliminate those classes, he was going to be entering into the next academy class.

Lt. Richardson stated that is not the issue I am having. The issue that I am having is the correspondence.

Comm. Norris stated we can follow up on that. Am I right Ms. Weekes that folks who...we've had several appeals before us and Ms. Hooks and I had a quick conversation at the beginning of the meeting about this. Am I right that if

we granted somebody's appeal. In other words, if we said, "Yes your appeal is granted," they would be on the list, but until we are actually accepting people in, they are going to be just like anybody else that we've accepted, that they have no place to go right at this moment.

Dir. Bryant-Weekes stated yes. I am not sure what letter Lt. Richardson is requesting. Perhaps we can clear that up. He is in the process and his file is being....

Atty. Hooks stated we will take care of it after the meeting, Lt. Richardson.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated I just want to reiterate what the Director said, we don't give candidates letters. When a candidate has been through our process and it's determined that they meet the standards to be extended an offer of employment, at that point in time, we do it. We are not extending an offer of employment, at this point in time, because we don't have any offers to give. There is no letter. We do not give letters and the Director is absolutely correct.

Comm. Norris asked is this an appeal that was before us?

Atty. Hooks stated yes.

Comm. Norris asked would we normally send a letter to somebody stating that we've considered your appeal and your appeal has been granted.

Atty. Hooks stated yes, he did receive a letter from us.

Comm. Norris stated the letter that you described said that is was under consideration.

Atty. Hooks stated no. The letter that I sent to Lt. Richardson was after I had spoken with Director Weekes indicating that they were resolving the issue.

Comm. Norris stated let's follow up on this. I understand exactly what the Chief is saying and I totally understand that. But, what I am saying is when someone comes to our Board with an appeal that's different from just sort of a normal application. And, it's not clear to me what correspondence there is, or was or should be. But, we don't have any correspondence sitting up here, so we are not going to resolve that sitting up here. So, we are going to have to go look.

Jerome Warefield voiced a concern about an increase of car thefts in his community and that his car has been stolen twice. He asked is there anything that could be done to increase patrol on E. Outer Drive?

Chief Bully-Cummings asked Mr. Warfield to speak to the lieutenant after the meeting and we will take a look to see what is going on in your neighborhood.

Edith Lee Payne voiced a concern regarding the operations of 911 and the Fire Department when her home caught on fire.

Ms. Walters stated when a person is referred to the Labor Relations Unit for any kind of infraction or misdemeanor, the person who lodged the complaint should also be investigated, as well as, the person that is being accused. She also stated there should be cooperation between other areas of law enforcement.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DANTE' L. GOSS
Executive Director
Board of Police Commissioners

DLG/kdw